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Vol 4 No 44

BBC sales block

ACORN'S troubles in the high street have intensified with news that, when existing Acorn shops are sold, none of the major chain stores at present plan to offer the BBC or Electron over Christmas, with the exception of Dixons/Carrys.

The original BBC B model is also now virtually unsaleable, leading to speculation that the model has been discontinued. This suggestion, has been strongly denied by Acorn.

The Dixons/Carrys group is now the only large chain to stock the Electron - at a special pack price of £99.99, which includes a data recorder and software.

The independent specialist retailers still stocking Acorn machines are largely clinging to the BBC Plus BSE and BBC micro. They are now finding it increasingly difficult to obtain BBC B's and Electron's.

"The standard BBC BPC still sells very well, but it is extremely difficult to get them because Acorn doesn't seem to be making them any more," said one dealer. "Also, there's not a lot of point in buying Electrons since Dixons are selling them at £99 up the road."

This view was reinforced by another retailer: "I can't get the BBC BPC B for love nor money - Acorn seems to have stopped manufacturing them.

I haven't been able to get hold of the BBC model yet either, but I'm planning to stock it."

"It is not true that we have stopped making the BBC BPC micro," said an Acorn spokeswoman. "And I would have thought it surprising if high street retailers are not going to buy Acorn machines for Christmas."

Readers are also concerned at the closures in

continued on page 8



The Animated Graphic Adventure Creator from Im Creative works in similar fashion to the Quill, but

both graphics and text can be generated from the same package. It costs £22.95.



MICRO MAGIC



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THIS WEEK'S NEWS

- 1570 DISC DRIVE ARRIVES
- RUMBELOWS DROPS SPECTRUM

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EDITORIAL

Why is the question of whether the BBC should take advertising such a sensitive one? After all the BBC has been carrying advertising for its own products - BBC publications for example - for years.

Take its involvement with Acorn to produce the BBC micro. Undoubtedly the arrangement helped promote computer literacy. But it also boosted the BBC's profile through substantial royalty payments on every micro sold.

Even now the BBC's frequent programme coverage of a product with which it has a commercial involvement continues. Not just its micro shows either - the BBC micro still crops up in all sorts of programmes across the network's output.

Tel what is the business interest in Acorn doing for the BBC? Not a lot. Surely it must at least raise questions about the BBC's

editorial impartiality. And now, mainly through Acorn's own much publicised financial difficulties the link is becoming almost an embarrassment. Acorn's products are no longer widely available in the high street and sales have plunged because Acorn has priced itself right out of the market. Further, there is little sign that Acorn either has the resources or has any particular wish to provide an on-going family of new BBC micros. Why are there now three BBC models competing only with each other and all wildly overpriced? Acorn's strategy for the home computer market is a shambles.

And the BBC is now losing out all round. It should have quietly disengaged itself from the Acorn agreement long ago when its computer literacy project was still bearing educational fruit.

But then, presumably, the money looked too good to turn down. Now even that looks like drying up.

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'The Enterprise gives a musician much greater flexibility in the production and arrangement of music' - pro musician Robert Hartshorne

Drive and monitor for C128 emerge

COMMODORE's new 128 micro has at last gone on sale with the disc and monitor peripherals required to use the machine to the full - and already prices are being dismantled.

The 1275 disc drive and

1901 monitor units were available for the first time at the Commodore Australia Show held at the Tech West Centre in London last weekend.

Although the official prices for the mono, disc drive and monitor have now been set at

\$299.99, \$199.99 and \$299.99, respectively, Commodore's dealer at the show, Chicombe, was offering the hardware at special show prices of \$259, \$159 and \$239 for mono, drive and monitor.

Despite the price reduction, bringing the micro/disc drive/monitor combination down by over £40 to £171, this is still over £300 more than Amstrad's CPC 4128.

The Commodore Revision Show was well attended with the number of visitors to the two-day event estimated at well over 7,000.

Sinclair to 'badge' QL printer

SINCLAIR has now signed an agreement to 'badge' a Tektronix printer for the QL.

The printer is the same model as the unbranded one which was shown at the Personal Computer World show, and will be officially launched at Compex, from November 18-19.

The printer is a 9-pin dot-matrix type, with a draft speed of 100 cps and near letter quality speed of 35 cps. It will take both continuous and single sheets of paper.

Data distributions will be selling the printer, in black ivory, for £249.

Holiday package row sparked by Benidorm

PART of Melbourne House's package holiday adventure Terrormolinos may be interested to hear of another title with a remarkably similar plot - Benidorm from Little Sofia software.

Ter Benidorm was written and released on mail order nearly two years ago and Terrormolinos was only launched this summer.

In Benidorm a family, father Cyril, mother Beryl and children Wayne and Joanne set out for their destination from their home in Blough. In Terrormolinos, the mother too is called Beryl and she and children Kim and Denise also live in Blough. Other features shared by Benidorm and Terrormolinos include drunken characters and food poisoning, and both programs use seaside postcard-style artwork in the packaging.

"We wrote Benidorm simply as a spoof, our main line of business being bespoke medical software," said Ray Carney of Little Sofia. "We

assumed that the Terrormolinos people are claiming their idea is totally original."

"I have never heard of this other game," said Peter Jones, co-author of Terrormolinos. "Obviously Little Sofia must have thought up the same concept - certainly if you start planning an adventure game set around a Spanish holiday, tonnes of it will fall into place. We may have thought of a flat at first - we had the idea planned before Hangerford appeared."

"I can assure you we published Terrormolinos in good faith," said Melbourne House's Paul Byrne. "I have absolute confidence in the authors."

Terrormolinos is available for the Spectrum and C64 at \$5.95 from most shops. Benidorm is available for the C64 on mail order only from Little Sofia at 11 Graham Place, Bideley, W. Yorks, for £7.99.

L: Terrormolinos artwork.
R: Benidorm title.



Rumbelows drops Spectrum as stores plan Xmas ranges

RUMBELOWS has become the first high street store to discontinue sales of Sinclair's computers.

It will not make a decision as to whether to reinvest either the Spectrum Plus or QL until after Christmas.

Rumbelows' Christmas range comprises the Amstrad CPC 464 and 4128, Toshiba 486 IX-10 package, the Commodore 64 Competition at £199, and the Commodore 128.

The decision not to take the Spectrum Plus over Christmas has a lot to do with Diagon's £129.99 Spectrum Plus package. "Diagon seems to have tied up that particular area of the market," said Rumbelows' buyer Terry Greenwood. "We have still got a few in stock but we're not going to do a deal with Diagon."

Most of the other major retail chains, including Boots, Lasky's, Hestons and W H Smith, are offering Spectrum Plus packs, very similar to Diagon's, for sale over the Christmas period.

Boots will also be stocking the QL, Amstrad CPC 464 and 4128, the Commodore Competition, Toshiba IX-10 and

Acorn 1000E over Christmas.

The Commodore 128 will be sold only in Boots' top 20 stores. Lasky's is stocking the Amstrad 464 and 4128, Toshiba IX-10, Acorn 1000E, the Commodore Competition and the C128. Lasky's hopes to offer the C128 in two separate packages, one with the 1275 disc drive and one with the disc drive plus Commodore's 1901 monitor. John Madden will offer a printer pack for the QL, featuring Tektronix's CPS printer for £299.99. The QL will also be available as its own at £199.99. Madden too has the C64 Competition, Amstrad 464 and 4128, and interestingly is hoping for some PCW 8008s for Christmas. W H Smith has the C64 Competition and Amstrad 464 and 4128. Diagon/Carney is the only major chain to offer the BBC and Electron machines, in addition to its Spectrum Plus pack, Commodore Competition and Amstrad 464, 4128 and 6025.

**More news
on page 9**



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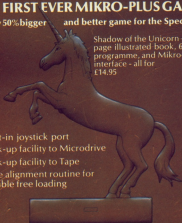
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Word power

Program: *Protest Amstrad*
Amstrad CPC Price: £18.98
 tape, £26.95 disc, £28.95 Rom
Supplier: Amstrad The Studio,
 Leighton Place, Gyrton,
 Surrey CB9 1ET

With *Protest Amstrad* sets out with the intention of improv-

ing any CPC word processor available to date and it has done an extraordinarily good job of it. The only professional level competition comes from *Tarword* on CP/86 platform.

The disc version of *Tarword* has a super mail merge facility, a spell checker, support from character redesigned programs for Epsos and Amstrad printers and has also been released in

a new version that uses the 6128's extra memory. None of these extras are yet available to *Protest* but they have been promised and in almost every other way there is a tangible increase in power under *Protest*.

One of the noticeable points is speed - paragraph reformatting for example is almost instantaneous. Secondly almost every command is flexible - you can save and print blocks of text, merge text at the cursor position, find and replace can be case independent or specific, global or local, backwards or forwards, words only or strings within words.

Printer control commands such as line spacing or page length can be embedded in the text, as well as text formatting rulers, comment lines, messages that suspend printing until a key is pressed (or

prompting a daisy wheel change for example), soft hyphens (they disappear if the word doesn't cross a line break) the list goes on.

I can't emphasize how good it is and the only feature that you can criticised is that if you have a line length approaching 80 you'll overwrite this by several characters before formatting it on to the next line.

The Rom version allows you 40K of free text file space (even on the 6128) and frees you from having to waste disc space with working copies of the program. It is available in cartridge form for £20.00 extra or as a chip for insertion in any Amstrad compatible Rom board. Don't miss it - it is superb!

Tony Hundle



Head banger

Program: *Fighting Warrior*
Amstrad Spectrum Price: £1.95
Supplier: Melbourne House,
 Castle Yard House, Castle
 Yard, Richmond TW9 1HT

What does Egypt mean to you? Sand, camels, pyramids, and the odd animated mummy and more sand? Well, Melbourne House is out to

prove otherwise with *Fighting Warrior*.

We're back in with the pharaohs with a plot concerning the rescue of a beautiful princess, but what really matters is that your figure is armed with a staff or he battles with assorted ladders on his sand-chance from left to right.

This hack with a stick has a similar, though slightly more limited, variety of movements to his oriental counterpart in *Expanding Flat*: he can duck and jump as well as aiming

high mid and low blows. The varied opponents, which include a superb looking dragon, seem to react with a degree of intelligence as they attempt to parry the attacks.

These being ancient times there's a magical element in the shape of wares, the shattering of which may prove beneficial, as well as providing archaeological hints with fragments to ponder over in the future! And there are some Cherokees firing arrows from off-screen right adding

to your problems.

With its superb animation and high playability this is another sure fire winner for Melbourne House's single-handed combat division, and it's even got the Spectrum to produce a reasonable sound of clashing bones. While not as original as *Expanding Flat* it should still have you battling for hours on end.

John Minson



Dog dodge

Program: *One Man and His Dog*
Amstrad Spectrum Price: £1.95
Supplier: Mastertronic,
 515 Paul Street, London
 EC2A 4PH

Air - I remember the old days when we 'told dogs' and 'tended sheep' and they made boring computer games about it for vast prices. Well now we 're decide to test the flocks and this 'ere game costs a lot less and it's a whole lot of original fun.

The problem with autohacks, as these intergalactic woolly 'beats is called, is that they only live for twenty minutes, as it's a race against time, and your first problem



is to dodge across the field where they're all bounding 'ther and 'ther.

Once you've made the correct where they live you 're to find them and round them up - in the right order, mind -

to the teleport. You let one get in before 'is time and you'll 've to start all over again.

Now these again sheep are as stupid as their cartoonish cousins but luckily they tel-

low just two patterns of movement so you can usually guess where they'll go next.

Well, you'll need your dog's ability to dig 'oles and be in wait and, 'is tunnelling skills, so that 'e can direct them where you want them. And once you 'is cleared one cavern there's another nine-teen to go.

It's a good job though, calling for a fair bit of strategy. I don't mind saying that as shepherd's are decidedly underpaid if that's 'ere cheap you can try us.

And now I'm off to listen to the Archers because old Don's 'ving a bit of trouble with 'is new neighbours from Almir 1.

John Minson



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For the birds

Program: *Oren and Cheep: The Birthday Party* **Micro Commodore 64 Price:** £18 **Price:** £2.95 **Supplier:** Macmillan Software, 4 Little Essex Street, London WC2R 3LJ.

Oren and Cheep are a double act who were the kindergarten crew with their television series, which could explain my ignorance of their antics. Oren is a worm (literally) while Cheep, his feathered friend, spends his time flapping and chirping.

Today is Oren's birthday and Cheep is flapping around and pecking instead of eating the worm like any self-respecting bird. He has to drop the ingredients into the right jars, but his friends and me eat them. On this showing, I wouldn't employ him as my social secretary.

With a little help from you he should succeed though... and Macmillan says the game will delight kids of all ages so don't try to share your responsibility! The first

bird's doddle - just remember which of four jars contains what. The search for guests - who probably run like mad when they hear Cheep's incessant chirruping - is a journey along screens of

paths and even into the subterranean world of the mole. Gather the right friends and when you encounter the non-U animals, such as rat, cat or crow, you can scare them off. The last logic test is considered such fun that you have to do it twice.

Apart from my sympathy to the characters - and I'm sure I'd love them if I was seven again - the game is badly presented. The instructions are unclear and it took several readings before I even knew what to do. The middle section is the most interesting and introduces simple mapping to children but despite its clever use of single key inputs it seems to drag on wearily. By the time Cheep and three friends have staid along a path even fans will be nodding off.

The initial reaction tester, to determine difficulty level, is a good idea and the whole package could have been a useful arcade learning tool but it's unlikely to hold the attention... and that applies to kids of any age. **Macmillan**
John Minson



In tune

Program: *Shadowline: Funer Music* **Spectrum/Commodore Price:** £2.95 **Supplier:** Beyond Software, Durrant House, Herford, Sh2, London EC1R 5EJ.

I like me, you are one of those people who absolutely loved about Shadowline, but lacked the necessary guile and patience to finish it properly by capturing General Zell and saving Ambassador Kyrine, so if you are a keen follower of Tony

Kindle's page and are waiting for him to come up with some Shadowline poems - wait no more, for here comes the cavalry in the shape of the Shadowline Funer.

This is a very clever marketing test, because it lets you play around with the program changing almost anything you want, thus allowing kids to create their own gas against each other.

The whole 'tuning' procedure, like the main game, is now driven and initially you are presented with the 'shop' screen which allows you to view the whole Shadowline Funer's craft. From this

Zat all?

Program: *Zyn Micro Commodore 64 Price:* £18.99 **Supplier:** Kabin 3-4 Vernon Yard, 118 Pentonville Rd.

I am not sure about this one: it's a sort of cross between 'Moon Puggy' and 'Defender' with some adventure and logic problems thrown in. The aim of the game is to penetrate the six levels of the planet Zyn to your combined truck and rocket to collect pieces of a bomb, which once assembled, will blow up the protective walls of the subterranean city, thus allowing you access through to shoot the now defenceless habitation into submission.

The bottom of the screen contains all the usual gauges for monitoring fuel, ammo,

objects carried, score and time, along with messages which tell you the amount of damage your ship is sustaining through hostile fire or flying into rock walls, which is almost impossible not to do. Next are electric charges which form the logic puzzles consisting of patterned squares, turned off by flying through them at full speed. The trick is to find out which squares turn off which patterns, because flying through a patternless square will turn it on again. All squares have to be black to allow you to continue past. It's all rather confusing and the instruction sheet isn't very revealing.

Graphically the game is quite nice, with some neat sound effects and large sprites and the price is very fair.

Andy Moon



Speed hills?

Program: *Minder II Micro Spectrum Price:* £11.95 **Supplier: PSL, 461 Stony Stanton Road, Coventry CV4 5DG.**

The theory: While machine code optimises like a hare, Basic crawls like a snail. A compiler produces code from the Basic program.

Set against this, most compilers demand a much reduced Basic. They are unable to convert every Basic command into code, often discard functions and string handling. *Minder II* claims to handle virtually the whole language, so that 'off the peg' Basic programs can be speed up.

When you decide where to place the objects and change them in the game and characterise of each. For example, the weight of every item can be adjusted, personnel can be added and patrol routes changed along with doors both locked and unlocked.

When you have your own set up, the standard *Save game* procedure can be used to enable you to load it into the game in the usual way.

Loading is in two stages to check Basic then translate it, errors sometimes resulting of both the source and *Minder*.

The practice: What better way to test these claims than to run off a book of listings and type in a hundreds tortoise-like arcade game? *Minder* minutes later I'm ready to compile but *Minder* isn't. Try as I might I can't see why it won't handle a High Score Table.

There's no help in the source documentation, and while some programs had an appreciable speed increase, this unfortunate attribute is error trapping spots what is probably a good choice - if it fails to behave, poster PSL.

John Minson



Files created by the Funer are fully usable and interchangeable with those created by the Shadowline program, as a previously saved game can be modified.

Personally, I intend to do away with all the guards so I can have the satisfaction of walking Mando straight to Zell and winning the way easy!

Andy Moon





Chik, toosh, shak!

Hardware *Spectrum Micro Spectrum* Price £35.00 **Supplier** Cheestak Marketing, 1 Wilkesbrook Science Park, Crickhowell Road, St Mellons, Cardiff

Come on table time. I am biased towards all things musical on micros because it seems to me to be one of the genuinely fun things micros can do.

Whether it is now quite cheap to get yourself a useful little Casio keyboard, the present drum sounds are usually useless. Almost without exception drum sounds on the cheap keyboards are so immediately wonderful, almighty and plastic sounding that only those people whose primary objective in musical life is to play *When the Snake Gets Marching* will find it satisfactory.

Conversely, though, decent drum machines can cost you £200 plus.

Cheestak has now produced an answer. *Spectrum* gives you, in conjunction with a *Spectrum*, an excellent drum machine that uses sampled sounds (your drums digitally recorded) which can be played either in real time or notated using a simple screen editing system.

The *Spectrum* system comes with a 'kit' of eight sounds - bass drum, high hat open, high hat closed (chik and toosh respectively) hand claps (shak), snare (chick), snare (ching), mid tom (chaw), low tom (chomp) and hand claps (chikka). Up to three of these sounds can be used simultaneously but in fact the illusion of

everything happening at once is quite possible with a bit of smart programming around the beat.

The software that gives you control of all this is mainly excellent. The display lets you choose a song to work on and name it, starting either from scratch or loading in saved drum patterns from tape. Composing a song (which means an ordered sequence of different patterns) is a matter first of creating the individual drum sections then structuring the completed patterns according to the layout of the music you want to use them with.

The pattern creation section works in two ways. You can either work in real time, choosing and inserting each different percussive beat and building up a complete pattern over a specified number of bars or you can enter each beat using cursor keys on a simplified equivalent of a musical staff.

The excellent part of all this is that the real time and notation ways of working are completely interrelated - your real time drum inputs are automatically notated for you so it is possible to mix the different kinds of inputs easily. This means that the snap-to-play bits like a regular snare pulse can be quickly tapped out in real time and some tricky notation bits can be carefully notated.

The individual patterns are then 'named' and numbered and then stored to tape.

The only criticism I have of the software is that there are some occasions where you go into sub-routines and discover that options that are not currently available stay on the screen, eg, often Option D for drum play is shown, but pressing D won't do anything and you have 'returned' from some sub-menu. It's basically a small point.

The sounds are excellent and it does help if you have a decent amp or hi fi. You'll still need some sort of amplifier whatever you do though - the *Spectrum* sends its sound signal out via a standard phone lead.

There is promise by Cheestak too, of other sounds on tape for around £2 to give you a totally different kind of drum section.

You can even synchronise your *Spectrum* to other instruments - it will produce a clock impulse into the *Spectrum* Mic socket. This pulse - put into a multi-track or on to tape could form a clock track to trigger sequencers but the manual is unfortunately very vague on this point. I think you'd need a sync box though - the manual is not helpful on this point and I'd have welcomed a lot more information.

The peripheral should be treated with unrestrained glee by *Spectrum* owning music buffs.

A decent drum machine for £20-30? Ridiculous!

Turbo or not Turbo

Hardware *Turbo 20 cartridge* **Micro Commodore 64** Price £28.00 **Supplier** Robinson, 38 Market Place, London NW11 6JP 01-209 0310

In a sense this isn't a hardware product at all, since the Turbo devices are simply standard Commodore-type Rom cartridges. The routines they contain, however, are something special: a range of utilities and new Basic commands which transform the C64.

The Turbo range consists of five cartridges. *Turbo-10* is a compendium of the other four, which contains all the utilities available in the range.

Turbo 20 uses no memory, and will not interfere with 95% of Commodore programs. Should it be necessary, you can use *Quit* to deactivate the cartridge, without having to disconnect it from the cartridge port.

Typing *Show* brings up a menu of all the new commands available in several sections. The Basic tools is impressive enough, including preprogrammed function keys giving *Armed*, *Quit* and *Run*, and so on: *Auto-line number*, *Delete line*, *Find string*, *Highlight error*, *Retrieve old program*, *Set by page*, *Remember*, *Change screen colour*, *Hex dec conversion*, *Auto key repeat*, *Reset*, *Trace*, and more commands.

The last (assembly routines) allow Basic programs to be saved in a form which will load up to ten times faster than normal, a boon to programmers fed up with the lethargic Commodore data assets. There's also a *Merge* facility for combining sections of program. Fast disc file/label routines, a command to get a disc directory, format a disc, scratch a file, rename files, validate discs and reset the drive are included, as are commands to change device numbers.

That's just the start. Printer commands include Commodore interface software allowing you to use your C64 with a non-Commodore printer: a *Col* command to allow you to define the column width, and translation routines for the Commodore graphic characters. There's also a machine-code monitor with over thirty commands, which uses only 4K.

It seems that there should be something here which will be of use to any Commodore 64 user. For the cost, the Turbo 20 seems the best option even though the others are cheaper: Turbo 10 contains everything but the fast disc routines and monitor; Turbo 20 has just the monitor; Turbo 30 has everything but the Electronics software and monitor; Turbo 40 has everything but the fast disc routines; and Turbo 50 has the lot.

The Turbo series go a long way to overcoming many of the limitations of Commodore Basic, Dos, and interfacing.

Graham Taylor

Chris Jenkins

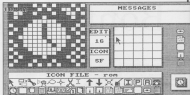
No toy

Hardware: AMX Mouse Micro Amstrad CPC range. Price £70 Supplier: Advanced Memory Systems, Green Lane, Appleton, Warrington, WA4 8NG

The AMX mouse system made its first appearance for the BBC micro and its transition to the Amstrad is not surprising since the two machines have a very similar graphics resolution. What is especially encouraging is that in the months since it first appeared AMX have managed to prevent it becoming dismissed as an expensive toy by producing an impressive range of BBC support software to make use of the hardware's abilities, and the same is planned for the Amstrad.

To set up the system you just fit a box into the joystick socket which is powered via a cable fitted to the monitor-to-computer lead. The box has on its side a BBC-style port into which the mouse lead, presently unswitched from the BBC version, plugs. Movement of the mouse is then translated into interrupt-driven cursor control codes.

The essential software is a piece of code that installs several BBC extensions to Locomotive Basic and these allow you to set up windows, move icons and pointers (smoothly and at high speed), detect cursor position on screen and read which of the three mouse buttons are pressed - in short all you need to set up a windows/icon-driven program of your own. Because of the limitations of spare memory offered by the CPC compared to the BBC it is high res. software



is supplied on cassette but AMX also offer a Rom version which would allow you to use the routines with large programs or, to a degree, with commercial releases such as Amstrad.

The RSE's mean that you have a remarkably simple to use, but immensely powerful system. The potential of it is illustrated by the fact that the pattern designers, icon designers and Amstrad programs that are also supplied as the tape and which are all fast, flexible and very impressive, are written in Basic and can be modified or added to as you wish.

The two designer packages are extremely easy and satisfactory to use and really need little explanation - rather as in an IDEC designer you move over a large grid setting the squares to black or white as necessary whilst a small image of the icon changes to show you the result. *Art* is a different kettle of fish altogether - designed to emulate pro-

grams such as MacPaint and is very good indeed for certain free hand effects using pencil or spray-gun icons, texture filling etc. As a serious artist using it suffers most from the lack of a magnify option to allow precision drawing and is not allowing you to use the entire screen to draw but some of AMX's demo pictures are truly breathtaking.

Further releases planned are utilities that let you add colours, in many thousands of different shades produced by stippling, to the drawings you have produced using *Amstrad Art*, *Amstrad Desk* which provides icon-driven calculator, diary and memo pad functions and also a *PageMaker* utility for composing A4 sheets for club magazines etc.

Together they add up to one of the most impressive, and certainly the most original, Amstrad peripherals I have seen.

Tony Kendall

Picture this

Hardware: Enterprise/Fidelity TV Monitor. Price £229.95. Micro: Various Suppliers Enterprise Computers, 31-37 Stanton Street, London N1 6W

There are a number of good reasons for buying a monitor for your micro ranging from the relatively frivolous, such as the brighter explosion when you zap the aliens, to the crucial - ever try reading 80-column text on a wobbly TV picture while word processing?

There is, however, one good reason for not buying one - cost. Recently though the combination colour television/monitor has set out to change all that. For little over the price of a second reply you can also have the advantages of direct RGB input.

The Enterprise TV monitor is certainly not dedicated to its namesake computer but via its 21-pin SCART type Euroconnector socket can achieve the displays of a variety of home movies, with

loads available for BBC, Commodore, Cric, Dragon and Amstrad. An interface should also provide for the Spectrum. In fact it takes very little investigation to learn that this is a badge version of the 14 inch screen Fidelity CTM 1400.

Television performance is well up to standard, even with a set-top aerial, thanks to the AFC switch, and computer signals received through this socket are still clear and bright though tuning may prove a little tricky. But it can be instructive to switch from this to direct RGB input. I used an Enterprise 180 and certainly the micro's hi-res graphics and colours took on a brighter, sharper quality.

I then moved on to some word processing with no trouble at all reading the 80-column text. The tube is fully corrected for pin-cushion distortion, which is important in text modes and isn't always the case with older TVs.

Sound is also channelled through the monitor and, while I waste output should put many computers' internal speakers to shame.

A handsome piece of equipment and

despite my glibble about the control flap it represents good value, especially as it may be discounted by up to £50 in certain places.

John Mison



Bonfire Party

Make your political statement with this program for the Spectrum 48K by Andrew Bird

This week, as Bonfire Night approaches, we give you the chance to recreate the events of that infamous November the 5th. In this game, you must move Guy Fawkes around the screen to collect the eight barrels of gunpowder... however, one of the barrels has split and you are leaving a trail of gunpowder behind you... and the end of the trail seems to have caught fire.

Program Notes

Line No

1-75

Initialises variables etc

3000-4000

3000-3050

3000-3080

4000-4080

8000-8200

3000-3600

8000-8090

8900-8980

Variables

ml, ml, ml

Dim a, Dim y

Draw screen 1

Main loop

Guy runs into barrels

Burning trail catches up with Guy

Screen 2 Win routine

Instructions & Draw screen 3

Graphics

Miscellaneous screen & sound

trail

tl, tr

yy

glt

a, b

tl

p

data

l, n, d

Speed of burning trail

Parts of trail drawn & burning

Number of times gun powder collected

Displays glt

Position of Guy Fawkes

Instructions

Used to draw screen

Used to read data

Current gunpowder loops

PS Underlined capital letters in the listing should be entered in graphics mode.



After the overture

Cy Noble continues his music creator for the Beep

This week we continue with the music creation program for the BBC. The third and final part of the listing will be printed next week.

Please note that to save an envelope you must add to go to the envelope designer menu where you can save or load envelopes separately. Remember to do that before you leave the program. It would be a shame to write your tune using envelopes you've created and be unable to play it back later because you forgot the envelope to go with it.

F <return> will repeat any given

sequence of notes, taking them on from the last note written. You will be asked for the numbers of the first and last notes to be copied. **F** will stop play back if you hold it down for a while when music is being playing back.

You are asked for channel, envelope or volume, note value, and length for each note and the note is immediately played and confirmation requested. If okay you go on to the next note. All the above menu options work only on the first parameter, channel. If you have some short music handy you can use

that. The note window will give you the values for the note and if you use a length value of eight for quarter notes in 4/4 time (or 6 in 3/4 time) then the rest is a piece of cake. There is a maximum of 255 notes provided for and that should be ample for most purposes. Remember the Beep requires eight bytes per note, so 255 notes takes up 2K bytes of memory, a sizable fraction of the whole, especially if your tune is going to be used in a Mode 0 game.

The whole program is menu driven so should not be difficult to use even for a beginner. However, the program is lengthy and complex but that is unavoidable. If you type it in exactly as written it will perform as described - otherwise you could have some very frustrating debugging to do!

```

114000**PROGnoteLOCAL, 1
117000** "You save a new-note"
118000** F=>00071 (200)
119000** F=>00070 (200)
120000**PROG
121000
122000**PROGsave
123000** "Save ? (Y/N)"
124000** C1,0
125000** IF C1="Y",JMP11
126000**PROG
127000
128000**PROGnoteLOCAL, F,L,L,L,L,L,L,L,L,L
129000
130000** IF L=0
131000** IF L=0** "envelope" to escape"
132000** " for catalogue"
133000** "Name of tune please",F,L
134000** F=>00070 (200)
135000** F=>00071 (200)
136000**PROG
137000** F=>00070 (200)
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645000** F=>00070 (200)
646000** F=>00071 (200)
647000** F=>00070 (200)
648000** F=>00071 (200)
64900
```




**Central Hall,
Westminster,
22nd-23rd
November, 1988.**

**Today's the day to get your
Christmas shopping
started!**

Because today's the day we're
announcing a new Christmas
computer event — the Acorn
User Christmas Show. And
the coupon below brings you
straight-pain-the-queue
advance tickets ... saves you

£1 or more on the entrance
money ... and automatically
enters you into the draw for
Acorn products worth £4000!
It's the only way we know to
make Christmas shopping fun.
When? And where? And what?

The Acorn User Christmas
Show is on Friday and
Saturday, 22nd and 23rd
November, at The Central
Hall, Westminster.

The Central Hall is near the
Houses of Parliament. It's
easy to get to, and it's big to
make a really busy show
comfortable. (Who needs
another West End crush?)

There'll be the most
comprehensive range of
hardware and software — for
business, education, scientific
and home use.

The list of exhibitors is
growing daily. Like visitors,
they had a great time in July,
and they're looking forward to
launch their latest products.

ACORN USER CHRISTMAS SHOW EXHIBITOR LIST

AB DESIGN
ACT LTD
ACORN USER
ADVANCED MEMORY SYSTEMS
ALLEN SOFTWARE
ALPHABASE
ANF COMPUTING
BAC PUBLICATIONS
BLIT BIRSON SOFTWARE
BORTHOLME EMP LTD
BRITISH MICRO
CARE ELECTRONICS LTD
CARPENTL COMPUTERS LTD
CENTRAL TRADING EXCHANGE
CIE SERVICES LTD
COLSOFT
COMMISSION
COMMUNITEL
DIRECT DISK SUPPLIERS
DIP PERIPHERALS LTD
GRIFFIN COMPUTERS
GULTRONICS LTD
HIGHLIGHT SOFTWARE
HELIXWARE SOFTWARE
HCB ELECTRONIC SERVICES
HCS COMPUTER SUPPLIES
INTERLACTIC ROBOTS
JOHN WELLY & SONS LTD
KANSAS CITY SYSTEMS
LCL EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE
LOON SALES LTD
LOCKDOWN
LONDON BACKSHOP LTD
LOTUS/IBM
MIDWEST LTD
MICAL DATA LTD
MICROAID
MICRO MEDIA COMPUTER SUPPLIES
MICRO WORLD-COMPUTER SYSTEMS
LTD
MINI-EVA
MICROBOL LTD
MODERN HOUSE
MONITORING TOOL COMPANY
NETWORK GROUP
NORTHCH COMPUTER SYSTEMS
NORTHCH COMPUTER COMPANY LTD
ORIS SUPPLIES LTD
PRIVATE EUTOR
REY COMPUTER SUPPLIES
SAVAMAT COMPUTERS
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY LTD
SLINGERS PUBLICATIONS
SYSTEM LTD
SLICKER LTD
SHARDS SOFTWARE
SHYRON & SLICKER
SIGLEN COMPUTER SUPPLIES
WILLOW SOFTWARE
WE SERVE
WIGMORE HOUSE

STOP PRESS

DATAC
DELTREX DEALS
F. SOFT
WALSHLEY CONSULTANTS
COMSOFT
VENTURE INTERNATIONAL
WATFORD ELECTRONICS
BAND
LASIC SYSTEMS
CAMBRIDGE MICRO-CENTRE
CAMBES & INFO CENTRE
PATE
POTAPLE SOFTWARE
PAUL COOPER SOFTWARE
CHAMELEON
SECRET EDUCATIONAL MEDIA
CARLTON TRADING COMPANY
REFLEX ELECTRONICS
MICRONET

GIVE YOUR ACORN A CHRISTMAS PRESENT (And yourself while you're at it!)

TICKET APPLICATION FORM

To: Edition Scheme Ltd,
HR House, 447 High Rd,
Finchley, London N12 0AF.
Tel: 01-548 6585

Please supply _____ (qty) adult
tickets at £1 (if total bookings
are less than 10) or £1 (if total
bookings are more than 10)

_____ (qty) under-18s
tickets at £1

Enclose cheque/P.O. for £ _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

**What you save by posting
the ticket application
coupon today.**

For everybody ... cut out the
quickest! Ticket holders
walk straight to the door
and into the show.

For individuals ... you save
£1 per head on entry.
Admission at the door will
be £3 per head for adults,
£2 per head for under-
18s.

For groups ... of ten or more
people, you save an extra
£1 per adult. Post the
application form today!

**Edition Scheme Ltd,
HR House, 447 High Road,
Finchley, London N12 0AF.
Tel: 01-548 6585**

Change your standards

Connect your Commodore 64 up to a Centronics printer with the help of a soldering iron and Eric Dugheye

Those of us who have used the MPS 801 printers and their equivalents on the Commodore 64 know about their limitations. On a logical choice is to buy a better printer such as an Epson and use it instead, but there is one big problem: Commodore has not provided anything else than the serial interface to hook printers on. The problem can be solved by the purchase of a serial Centronics interface, but the price of these can be prohibitive. Another solution is to buy a cable that runs off the user port into a Centronics plug. This will work only with software which has provisions for such a setup, such as Keymap or with the software supplied with the cable.

To most of us, including myself in a previous programming life, the fun and out of how all this works was a mixture of technical wizardry and incomprehensible software. But after many a sleepless night and gallons of coffee all this became quite simple. In order to under-

stand how a parallel interface works, a bit of background theory is necessary. If you just want to get on with it and build the interface, skip the following paragraphs.

The parallel interface

A eight bit number consists of a combination of eight electrical pulses. A '0' is represented by about 0 volts and a '1' by about five volts. There are two ways of communicating these pulses: one pulse at a time, as to transmit an eight bit digit, you need a succession of eight pulses travelling on one wire (in theory), or all eight pulses at a time, requiring eight wires in total, one for each pulse. The former method is known as 'serial', the latter as 'parallel'. If it is for you - guess why.

A Centronics interface is in fact a parallel way of transmitting data. But you need more than eight wires to communicate with a printer. First the printer must have a reference timing from the computer, which is supplied by the *Strobe* output, then the printer also wants to know what the computer uses as ground voltage level, and finally, the printer

must be able to tell the computer when it is ready to receive the next byte. The communication goes as follows: the computer checks if the printer is ready by looking at the *Ready* (acknowledge) line. If this is satisfactory, it sends the data on the eight wires. When the printer receives these, it changes the state of the *Ready* line to tell the computer not to send more data, processes the data it has just received and when it has finished, changes the *Ready* line again to let the computer know it is ready to accept more data.

On the CPU user port, the *Strobe* and *Ground* lines are present. All we need to do now is to define which lines we are going to use for data and the reception of the *Ready* signal.

The software

I have included two programs: one in BASIC source code for those who want to do it the hard way and understand how it works, and a Basic program for the not so courageous ones who just want to get it going. The Basic program takes care of everything, just load it and run it when you attach the computer as and that's it. The printer can be enabled or disabled by just typing 'N' or 'D' and Return. It has the same effect as typing Open 4,4 CMD 4, but unlike the Open 4, the 'D' command does terminate all output to the printer.

To finish the software side of things, next week we finish with the construction of the cable and its instructions for use.

1000	PRINT "ABOUT THE SERIAL AND PARALLEL CHANNELS"	1000	PRINT "*****"
1010	PRINT "*****"	1010	PRINT "*****"
1020		1020	
1030	PRINT "SERIAL CHANNEL"	1030	PRINT "*****"
1040	PRINT "DATA OUTPUT (8 BIT)"	1040	PRINT "*****"
1050	PRINT "DATA INPUT (8 BIT)"	1050	PRINT "*****"
1060	PRINT "*****"	1060	PRINT "*****"
1070	PRINT "*****"	1070	PRINT "*****"
1080	PRINT "*****"	1080	PRINT "*****"
1090	PRINT "*****"	1090	PRINT "*****"
1100	PRINT "*****"	1100	PRINT "*****"
1110	PRINT "*****"	1110	PRINT "*****"
1120	PRINT "*****"	1120	PRINT "*****"
1130	PRINT "*****"	1130	PRINT "*****"
1140	PRINT "*****"	1140	PRINT "*****"
1150	PRINT "*****"	1150	PRINT "*****"
1160	PRINT "*****"	1160	PRINT "*****"
1170	PRINT "*****"	1170	PRINT "*****"
1180	PRINT "*****"	1180	PRINT "*****"
1190	PRINT "*****"	1190	PRINT "*****"
1200	PRINT "*****"	1200	PRINT "*****"
1210	PRINT "*****"	1210	PRINT "*****"
1220	PRINT "*****"	1220	PRINT "*****"
1230	PRINT "*****"	1230	PRINT "*****"
1240	PRINT "*****"	1240	PRINT "*****"
1250	PRINT "*****"	1250	PRINT "*****"
1260	PRINT "*****"	1260	PRINT "*****"
1270	PRINT "*****"	1270	PRINT "*****"
1280	PRINT "*****"	1280	PRINT "*****"
1290	PRINT "*****"	1290	PRINT "*****"
1300	PRINT "*****"	1300	PRINT "*****"
1310	PRINT "*****"	1310	PRINT "*****"
1320	PRINT "*****"	1320	PRINT "*****"
1330	PRINT "*****"	1330	PRINT "*****"
1340	PRINT "*****"	1340	PRINT "*****"
1350	PRINT "*****"	1350	PRINT "*****"
1360	PRINT "*****"	1360	PRINT "*****"
1370	PRINT "*****"	1370	PRINT "*****"
1380	PRINT "*****"	1380	PRINT "*****"
1390	PRINT "*****"	1390	PRINT "*****"
1400	PRINT "*****"	1400	PRINT "*****"
1410	PRINT "*****"	1410	PRINT "*****"
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1460	PRINT "*****"	1460	PRINT "*****"
1470	PRINT "*****"	1470	PRINT "*****"
1480	PRINT "*****"	1480	PRINT "*****"
1490	PRINT "*****"	1490	PRINT "*****"
1500	PRINT "*****"	1500	PRINT "*****"
1510	PRINT "*****"	1510	PRINT "*****"
1520	PRINT "*****"	1520	PRINT "*****"
1530	PRINT "*****"	1530	PRINT "*****"
1540	PRINT "*****"	1540	PRINT "*****"
1550	PRINT "*****"	1550	PRINT "*****"
1560	PRINT "*****"	1560	PRINT "*****"
1570	PRINT "*****"	1570	PRINT "*****"
1580	PRINT "*****"	1580	PRINT "*****"
1590	PRINT "*****"	1590	PRINT "*****"
1600	PRINT "*****"	1600	PRINT "*****"
1610	PRINT "*****"	1610	PRINT "*****"
1620	PRINT "*****"	1620	PRINT "*****"
1630	PRINT "*****"	1630	PRINT "*****"
1640	PRINT "*****"	1640	PRINT "*****"
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1660	PRINT "*****"	1660	PRINT "*****"
1670	PRINT "*****"	1670	PRINT "*****"
1680	PRINT "*****"	1680	PRINT "*****"
1690	PRINT "*****"	1690	PRINT "*****"
1700	PRINT "*****"	1700	PRINT "*****"
1710	PRINT "*****"	1710	PRINT "*****"
1720	PRINT "*****"	1720	PRINT "*****"
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1760	PRINT "*****"	1760	PRINT "*****"
1770	PRINT "*****"	1770	PRINT "*****"
1780	PRINT "*****"	1780	PRINT "*****"
1790	PRINT "*****"	1790	PRINT "*****"
1800	PRINT "*****"	1800	PRINT "*****"
1810	PRINT "*****"	1810	PRINT "*****"
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1830	PRINT "*****"	1830	PRINT "*****"
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1870	PRINT "*****"	1870	PRINT "*****"
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1900	PRINT "*****"	1900	PRINT "*****"
1910	PRINT "*****"	1910	PRINT "*****"
1920	PRINT "*****"	1920	PRINT "*****"
1930	PRINT "*****"	1930	PRINT "*****"
1940	PRINT "*****"	1940	PRINT "*****"
1950	PRINT "*****"	1950	PRINT "*****"
1960	PRINT "*****"	1960	PRINT "*****"
1970	PRINT "*****"	1970	PRINT "*****"
1980	PRINT "*****"	1980	PRINT "*****"
1990	PRINT "*****"	1990	PRINT "*****"

Basic Listing

```

10 GOTO 20
20 PRINT A : IF A = -1 THEN GOTO 52792:END
30 PRINT 52792 : A,A
40 GOTO 50
50 GOTO 20
600 DATA 149,11,940,8,3,149,287,141,9,3,94,32,115,6,201,57,240,7,201,58
710 DATA 240,54,78,33,149,247,72,141,58,3,149,207,141,59,3,149,127,141,63,221
820 DATA 149,288,141,78,222,149,5,141,1,221,32,118,6,78,174,147,149,202,141,28
930 DATA 149,240,141,39,3,32,118,6,78,174,147,32,202,241,73,149,14,44,13
940 DATA 221,240,231,104,240,1,221,24,78,-1

```

Analytical Amstrad

A testing time in store for Chemistry students on the 484 - written by Roger Walton

Many examination opportunities for Chemistry at aged 16+ require students to be able to identify simple salts when given the results of tests on them. This requires quite a lot of practice if the student is to be confident in interpreting the results of such tests.

The aim of this program is to allow you to do this on an Amstrad CPC 484 com-

puter. The program is an adaptation of similar programs seen on other machines but it takes advantage of the Amstrad's window commands to produce a clear and attractive screen display.

The user is asked to choose which one of 40 salts to try to identify. He is then given a short description of the salt and invited to choose a test. The tests used

are fairly standard except that the Davarda's Alloy test for nitrate ion has been chosen in preference to the older "brown-ring" test.

The student may choose to guess the identity of the salt at any time. Alternatively, if the student types Stop the identity of the salt is revealed and the student may choose another chemical. Help with the interpretation of the tests is given by typing Help.

If you find the prospect of typing in this boring, daunting, I can supply a copy upon receipt of a blank cassette and £2.50. My address is: Titania Glass, Heston/Lane, York YO1 4HG

```

1000 GOTO 1000:PRINT "WELCOME TO ANALYTICAL AMSTRAD"
1010 GOTO 1010:PRINT "CHOOSE A SALT TO IDENTIFY"
1020 GOTO 1020:PRINT "1. SODIUM CHLORIDE NaCl"
1030 GOTO 1030:PRINT "2. POTASSIUM CHLORIDE KCl"
1040 GOTO 1040:PRINT "3. SODIUM SULFATE Na2SO4"
1050 GOTO 1050:PRINT "4. POTASSIUM SULFATE K2SO4"
1060 GOTO 1060:PRINT "5. SODIUM NITRATE NaNO3"
1070 GOTO 1070:PRINT "6. POTASSIUM NITRATE KNO3"
1080 GOTO 1080:PRINT "7. SODIUM CARBONATE Na2CO3"
1090 GOTO 1090:PRINT "8. POTASSIUM CARBONATE K2CO3"
1100 GOTO 1100:PRINT "9. SODIUM BICARBONATE NaHCO3"
1110 GOTO 1110:PRINT "10. POTASSIUM BICARBONATE KHCO3"
1120 GOTO 1120:PRINT "11. SODIUM PHOSPHATE Na3PO4"
1130 GOTO 1130:PRINT "12. POTASSIUM PHOSPHATE K3PO4"
1140 GOTO 1140:PRINT "15. SODIUM ACETATE NaCH3COO"
1150 GOTO 1150:PRINT "16. POTASSIUM ACETATE KCH3COO"
1160 GOTO 1160:PRINT "17. SODIUM CITRATE Na3C6H5O7"
1170 GOTO 1170:PRINT "18. POTASSIUM CITRATE K3C6H5O7"
1180 GOTO 1180:PRINT "19. SODIUM TARTRATE Na2C4H4O6"
1190 GOTO 1190:PRINT "20. POTASSIUM TARTRATE K2C4H4O6"
1200 GOTO 1200:PRINT "21. SODIUM MALATE Na3C4H5O6"
1210 GOTO 1210:PRINT "22. POTASSIUM MALATE K3C4H5O6"
1220 GOTO 1220:PRINT "23. SODIUM SUCCINATE Na2C4H4O4"
1230 GOTO 1230:PRINT "24. POTASSIUM SUCCINATE K2C4H4O4"
1240 GOTO 1240:PRINT "25. SODIUM FUMARATE Na2C4H2O4"
1250 GOTO 1250:PRINT "26. POTASSIUM FUMARATE K2C4H2O4"
1260 GOTO 1260:PRINT "27. SODIUM GLUTARATE Na3C5H7O6"
1270 GOTO 1270:PRINT "28. POTASSIUM GLUTARATE K3C5H7O6"
1280 GOTO 1280:PRINT "29. SODIUM ADIPATE Na4C6H8O6"
1290 GOTO 1290:PRINT "30. POTASSIUM ADIPATE K4C6H8O6"
1300 GOTO 1300:PRINT "31. SODIUM SEBACATE Na4C10H18O6"
1310 GOTO 1310:PRINT "32. POTASSIUM SEBACATE K4C10H18O6"
1320 GOTO 1320:PRINT "33. SODIUM DODECATE Na4C12H22O6"
1330 GOTO 1330:PRINT "34. POTASSIUM DODECATE K4C12H22O6"
1340 GOTO 1340:PRINT "35. SODIUM TETRAPHENYLBOIPHENATE Na4C18H15O6"
1350 GOTO 1350:PRINT "36. POTASSIUM TETRAPHENYLBOIPHENATE K4C18H15O6"
1360 GOTO 1360:PRINT "37. SODIUM DIPHENYLBOIPHENATE Na2C18H15O6"
1370 GOTO 1370:PRINT "38. POTASSIUM DIPHENYLBOIPHENATE K2C18H15O6"
1380 GOTO 1380:PRINT "39. SODIUM MONOPHENYLBOIPHENATE NaC18H15O6"
1390 GOTO 1390:PRINT "40. POTASSIUM MONOPHENYLBOIPHENATE KC18H15O6"
1400 GOTO 1400:PRINT "CHOOSE A TEST TO PERFORM"
1410 GOTO 1410:PRINT "1. FLAME TEST"
1420 GOTO 1420:PRINT "2. PRELIMINARY TESTS"
1430 GOTO 1430:PRINT "3. SODIUM TEST"
1440 GOTO 1440:PRINT "4. POTASSIUM TEST"
1450 GOTO 1450:PRINT "5. SULFATE TEST"
1460 GOTO 1460:PRINT "6. NITRATE TEST"
1470 GOTO 1470:PRINT "7. CARBONATE TEST"
1480 GOTO 1480:PRINT "8. ACETATE TEST"
1490 GOTO 1490:PRINT "9. CITRATE TEST"
1500 GOTO 1500:PRINT "10. TARTRATE TEST"
1510 GOTO 1510:PRINT "11. MALATE TEST"
1520 GOTO 1520:PRINT "12. SUCCINATE TEST"
1530 GOTO 1530:PRINT "13. FUMARATE TEST"
1540 GOTO 1540:PRINT "14. GLUTARATE TEST"
1550 GOTO 1550:PRINT "15. ADIPATE TEST"
1560 GOTO 1560:PRINT "16. SEBACATE TEST"
1570 GOTO 1570:PRINT "17. DODECATE TEST"
1580 GOTO 1580:PRINT "18. BOIPHENATE TEST"
1590 GOTO 1590:PRINT "19. STOP"
1600 GOTO 1600:PRINT "10. FLAME TEST"
1610 GOTO 1610:PRINT "20. PRELIMINARY TESTS"
1620 GOTO 1620:PRINT "21. SODIUM TEST"
1630 GOTO 1630:PRINT "22. POTASSIUM TEST"
1640 GOTO 1640:PRINT "23. SULFATE TEST"
1650 GOTO 1650:PRINT "24. NITRATE TEST"
1660 GOTO 1660:PRINT "25. CARBONATE TEST"
1670 GOTO 1670:PRINT "26. ACETATE TEST"
1680 GOTO 1680:PRINT "27. CITRATE TEST"
1690 GOTO 1690:PRINT "28. TARTRATE TEST"
1700 GOTO 1700:PRINT "29. MALATE TEST"
1710 GOTO 1710:PRINT "30. SUCCINATE TEST"
1720 GOTO 1720:PRINT "31. FUMARATE TEST"
1730 GOTO 1730:PRINT "32. GLUTARATE TEST"
1740 GOTO 1740:PRINT "33. ADIPATE TEST"
1750 GOTO 1750:PRINT "34. SEBACATE TEST"
1760 GOTO 1760:PRINT "35. DODECATE TEST"
1770 GOTO 1770:PRINT "36. BOIPHENATE TEST"
1780 GOTO 1780:PRINT "37. STOP"
1790 GOTO 1790:PRINT "10. FLAME TEST"
1800 GOTO 1800:PRINT "20. PRELIMINARY TESTS"
1810 GOTO 1810:PRINT "21. SODIUM TEST"
1820 GOTO 1820:PRINT "22. POTASSIUM TEST"
1830 GOTO 1830:PRINT "23. SULFATE TEST"
1840 GOTO 1840:PRINT "24. NITRATE TEST"
1850 GOTO 1850:PRINT "25. CARBONATE TEST"
1860 GOTO 1860:PRINT "26. ACETATE TEST"
1870 GOTO 1870:PRINT "27. CITRATE TEST"
1880 GOTO 1880:PRINT "28. TARTRATE TEST"
1890 GOTO 1890:PRINT "29. MALATE TEST"
1900 GOTO 1900:PRINT "30. SUCCINATE TEST"
1910 GOTO 1910:PRINT "31. FUMARATE TEST"
1920 GOTO 1920:PRINT "32. GLUTARATE TEST"
1930 GOTO 1930:PRINT "33. ADIPATE TEST"
1940 GOTO 1940:PRINT "34. SEBACATE TEST"
1950 GOTO 1950:PRINT "35. DODECATE TEST"
1960 GOTO 1960:PRINT "36. BOIPHENATE TEST"
1970 GOTO 1970:PRINT "37. STOP"
1980 GOTO 1980:PRINT "10. FLAME TEST"
1990 GOTO 1990:PRINT "20. PRELIMINARY TESTS"
2000 GOTO 2000:PRINT "21. SODIUM TEST"
2010 GOTO 2010:PRINT "22. POTASSIUM TEST"
2020 GOTO 2020:PRINT "23. SULFATE TEST"
2030 GOTO 2030:PRINT "24. NITRATE TEST"
2040 GOTO 2040:PRINT "25. CARBONATE TEST"
2050 GOTO 2050:PRINT "26. ACETATE TEST"
2060 GOTO 2060:PRINT "27. CITRATE TEST"
2070 GOTO 2070:PRINT "28. TARTRATE TEST"
2080 GOTO 2080:PRINT "29. MALATE TEST"
2090 GOTO 2090:PRINT "30. SUCCINATE TEST"
2100 GOTO 2100:PRINT "31. FUMARATE TEST"
2110 GOTO 2110:PRINT "32. GLUTARATE TEST"
2120 GOTO 2120:PRINT "33. ADIPATE TEST"
2130 GOTO 2130:PRINT "34. SEBACATE TEST"
2140 GOTO 2140:PRINT "35. DODECATE TEST"
2150 GOTO 2150:PRINT "36. BOIPHENATE TEST"
2160 GOTO 2160:PRINT "37. STOP"
2170 GOTO 2170:PRINT "10. FLAME TEST"
2180 GOTO 2180:PRINT "20. PRELIMINARY TESTS"
2190 GOTO 2190:PRINT "21. SODIUM TEST"
2200 GOTO 2200:PRINT "22. POTASSIUM TEST"
2210 GOTO 2210:PRINT "23. SULFATE TEST"
2220 GOTO 2220:PRINT "24. NITRATE TEST"
2230 GOTO 2230:PRINT "25. CARBONATE TEST"
2240 GOTO 2240:PRINT "26. ACETATE TEST"
2250 GOTO 2250:PRINT "27. CITRATE TEST"
2260 GOTO 2260:PRINT "28. TARTRATE TEST"
2270 GOTO 2270:PRINT "29. MALATE TEST"
2280 GOTO 2280:PRINT "30. SUCCINATE TEST"
2290 GOTO 2290:PRINT "31. FUMARATE TEST"
2300 GOTO 2300:PRINT "32. GLUTARATE TEST"
2310 GOTO 2310:PRINT "33. ADIPATE TEST"
2320 GOTO 2320:PRINT "34. SEBACATE TEST"
2330 GOTO 2330:PRINT "35. DODECATE TEST"
2340 GOTO 2340:PRINT "36. BOIPHENATE TEST"
2350 GOTO 2350:PRINT "37. STOP"
2360 GOTO 2360:PRINT "10. FLAME TEST"
2370 GOTO 2370:PRINT "20. PRELIMINARY TESTS"
2380 GOTO 2380:PRINT "21. SODIUM TEST"
2390 GOTO 2390:PRINT "22. POTASSIUM TEST"
2400 GOTO 2390:PRINT "23. SULFATE TEST"
2410 GOTO 2390:PRINT "24. NITRATE TEST"
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5820 GOTO 2390:PRINT "23. SULFATE TEST"
5830 GOTO 2390:PRINT "24. NITRATE TEST"
5840 GOTO 2390:PRINT "25. CARBONATE TEST"
5850 GOTO 2390:PRINT "26. ACET
```

Peek & Poke



Lost Adventure

N. F. Wild of Ancestry, Chicago, writes

Q I own a Commodore 64 and since buying the cassette version of *The Quill* I have been hidden away in my little room writing adventure after adventure. However, in my latest epic, like a fool, I saved the game into the *Save Adventure* part of the menu and not the *Save Database*. I have tried and tried to retrieve it but to no avail. I

have contacted GUSoft, but no one there could help me. I would be very grateful if you could help me with this problem. The version of *The Quill* that I have is AOL.

A Bad news I am afraid... unless you keep an old copy of your *Quill* database, you have indeed lost all your work. The *Save Adventure* option saves the interpreter code together with the adventure database, which means that you cannot use the load option of *The Quill* to reconstruct your data.

There seems no real method of retrieving the situation other than starting again. I know that you won't want me to say this but why did you not save the database after you saved the adventure? Anyway whatever the reasoning was I am afraid that the old chestnut piece of advice is going to be trotted out once again... if you are developing a piece of software, using a generator or not, always develop a different cassette (or disc).

Crashed out

N. Sims of Chesham, Surrey, writes

Q My setup consists of a 486 Spectrum and interface I based on DE/Treiber keyboards plus one microdrive. I also have a prism Microsoft adapter and an Alphamem II printer. Problems seem to occur when running Backgammon or Traveller. If the adapter is connected all is OK. If this is disconnected and the printer attached all is still OK. However, if both devices are connected the program keep crashing - the printer need not be plugged in. I always type 'Load XXX' before loading, any ideas?

A This seems to be a printer/supplies problem. I can't quite understand why you get this with few games, but I suggest that you get your machine checked. You can test if things are ok before loading by moving a high address in

RAM (as close to 40k as possible), with a value and then *Jeeking* it to ensure that it has not changed. If the value has changed then you have a Ram problem. If no change has taken place then I suspect the tapes.

Neat conversion

Jeon Baker of Reading, writes

Q How I wish I could find a neat way of going from decimal to binary.

A The last time I was asked for a neat way I got copying letters. All I am going to say this time is that this is just a method:

```
10 INPUT A
20 FOR I = 1 TO 8
30 LET W = INT(A)
40 LET A = A - W * 8
50 LET A = -A
60 PRINT AT 8, I, A, W
70 NEXT I
80 NEXT A
```

This works for all positive integers up to 255. For other integers you are on your own.

BOYE

SOFTWARE

NAME	REF	PRICE	AGE
BOYE 1.1 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 2.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 3.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 4.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 5.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 6.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 7.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 8.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 9.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 10.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 11.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 12.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 13.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 14.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 15.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 16.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 17.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 18.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 19.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 20.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 21.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 22.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 23.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 24.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 25.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 26.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 27.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 28.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 29.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 30.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 31.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 32.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 33.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 34.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 35.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 36.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 37.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 38.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 39.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 40.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 41.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 42.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 43.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 44.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 45.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 46.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 47.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
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BOYE 49.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 50.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
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BOYE 56.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 57.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 58.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 59.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 60.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 61.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 62.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 63.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 64.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 65.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 66.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 67.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 68.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 69.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 70.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 71.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 72.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 73.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 74.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 75.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 76.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 77.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 78.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 79.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 80.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 81.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 82.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 83.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 84.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 85.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 86.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 87.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 88.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 89.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 90.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 91.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 92.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 93.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 94.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 95.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 96.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 97.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 98.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 99.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10
BOYE 100.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10

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C & F ASSOCIATES

NAME	REF	PRICE	AGE	STATUS	DATE	PRICE
ADVENTURE 1.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 2.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 3.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 4.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 5.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 6.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 7.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 8.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 9.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 10.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 11.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 12.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 13.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 14.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 15.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 16.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 17.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 18.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 19.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 20.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 21.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 22.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 23.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 24.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 25.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 26.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 27.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 28.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 29.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 30.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 31.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 32.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 33.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 34.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 35.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 36.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 37.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 38.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 39.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 40.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 41.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 42.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 43.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 44.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 45.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 46.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 47.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 48.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 49.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 50.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 51.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 52.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 53.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 54.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 55.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 56.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 57.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 58.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 59.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 60.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 61.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 62.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 63.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 64.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 65.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 66.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 67.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 68.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 69.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 70.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 71.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 72.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 73.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 74.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 75.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 76.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 77.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 78.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 79.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 80.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 81.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 82.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 83.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 84.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 85.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 86.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 87.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 88.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 89.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 90.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 91.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 92.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 93.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 94.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 95.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 96.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 97.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 98.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 99.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00
ADVENTURE 100.0 (1000000)	1000	1.00	10	ADVENTURE	10/01/00	1.00

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Arcade Avenue



C64 bonanza

This week is dedicated to the Commodore 64—after a relative drought of Pokeys we have recently been very fortunate to receive a marvellous selection of material, mostly as a result of the excellent work of our regular correspondent Kenneth Duffin in Liverpool. He has sent us so much good stuff that I can't squeeze it all into one column but for those that can't wait to see more look out for our Arcade Action Handbooks where you will find Commodore Pokeys galore and much more besides. This week I have also included the promised Pokeys from Stephen and David Chandler which appear after those from Kenneth.

Kenneth has also kindly pointed out a few corrections to Commodore Pokeys that were printed in previous issues — *Automania* (Vol. 4 no. 28) Pokey 3249.0 not 349.0; *Report* (Vol. 4 no. 24) Pokey 21070, 120; Pokey 21073, 173; *Norman Server* (Vol. 4 no. 24) Pokey 30600.04 (three); *Strangle* (Vol. 4 no. 24) Pokey 8008,125 (indicate lives); Pokey 8008,180; Pokey 8008.0; Pokey 8012,234 no collisions.

Chinese routines

His first new routine is for *China Miner* — yes I know we've done this before but just to illustrate the sort of problems that crop up it seems that the version on the Sublad cassette has a new turbo loader that makes it hard to get into. Enter this program:

```

10 T=0: For A=30000 To 30001:
  Next A: A=7-T+7: A=7-T+7:
  Next T: >=30000 Then Print "DATA
  ERROR": End

```

```

10: 30000, 30, 141, 95, 3, 189, 70,
  141, 41, 3, 94, 289, 281, 141, 93, 3,
  189, 2, 141, 94, 2, 78
20: 30000, 30, 141

```

Type Run. If Data Error appears then check listing. Type New. Then enter this line:

```

10 Pokey 30001,235 Pokey
  30008,240: Sys 30000: Sys 327

```

Type Sys 30000. Now press Shift Function to load the load-or program.

Once all the program has loaded an error message will appear on the screen but you ignore this. Now enter the following Pokey without clearing or scrolling the screen (this is because the machine code is stored in the first 10 lines). Pokey 1284.0; Pokey 1285.8; Pokey 1286,120; Sys 1284.

Arabian trickery

The machine will appear to reset but do not worry. Pokey 34490.0 to stop collision detection. Pokey 24031,173 indicate lives. Pokey 24034,189; Pokey 24037.0; Pokey 24038,234 — no need to collect objects. Sys 30127 to start mining.

Arabian Night This is very tricky to get into; if you try the following it will not switch off the speech. Load the game as normal. When the title screen appears and the music plays, reset the computer — the music will stop but nothing else will happen. Press Restore. Press the joystick fire button. Hold down the Function key just before the speech for the first screen; the machine will return to basic. Pokey 21094,108 full on any higher Pokey 22063,173 indicate lives Pokey 22470.0 no collision on collecting treasure Pokey 22760,189 Pokey 22769.0 Pokey 22770,234 for no collisions on rub/dying carpets part Sys 30038.

Falcon Parol 2: Enter this short program:

```

10 I=0: For A=30000 to 30001:
  Next A: A=3-I+3: I=I+1: Next
  I: I=0: >=30000 Then Print "Data
  Error": End
20: 30000, 30, 141, 40, 3, 189, 70,
  141, 40, 3, 94, 189, 180, 141, 40, 3,
  189, 281, 4, 3, 78
30: 30000, 30, 141, 95, 3, 189, 70,
  189, 21, 189, 197, 21, 3, 200, 289,
  241, 90, 90

```

Type Run — if Data Error appears then check listing. Type New. Now enter this 10 Pokey 49428,87 Pokey

49435,241 Sys 30039 Type Sys 30038

Now press Shift Function to load the game loader. Once the program has loaded press Restore twice. Finally Pokey 28798,165 for indicate lives. Pokey 28817.0 to make life easy Sys 28873 to start.

Stranglehop Press Function Restore when saving the game position Pokey 45490,173 lives. Pokey 44217, indicate fuel. Sys 360 to start. Brian Bloodaxe Load as normal and then try Runstop-Accuse. If it doesn't work reset the computer. Pokey 38270,165 indicate energy. Sys 38143 — if this does not work try Sys 38145 (it depends on when you break the program).

Pyramania: Load 1,1,1 Pokey 2018,200; Pokey 2019.8; Pokey 2048,169; Pokey 2049,181; Pokey 2050,141; Pokey 2051,131; Pokey 2052,98; Pokey 2053,79; Pokey 2054,241; Pokey 2055.8; Run. Kong Pokey 30029,173

Load game as normal and reset the machine. Pokey 3029,154 Sys 3034 Pokey 3035 Pokey 3034,173 Pokey 19079,173 Pokey 19080.0; Pokey 19081,204 Hunchback: Pokey 22822,133 lives Pokey 22823,169 Pokey 22823.0 Pokey 22824,234 no collisions. Sys 30394 Mr Wingo: Pokey 23024,173 Pokey 23091,20 indicate self. Pokey 18328,169 Pokey 18328.0 Pokey 18329,234 no collisions in first part. Pokey 28933,169 Pokey 28934.0 Pokey 28935,234 no collisions in second part.

Scoury Bob Strider Basic Type Load and when ready appears type Pokey 1812,78 Pokey 1812,248 Pokey 1812,282 and then type Run. When loading finishes again type Pokey 26718,189 Pokey 26720.0 Pokey 26721,141 Pokey 26722,119 Pokey 26723.0 then type Sys 11837 and you are unstoppable. On level 1 after getting coffee pot type 8 and press F7 to go to level 8, after



Scoury Bob 99 Gold entries back (lives). Pokey 7760,98 concrete link screen. Sys 12128. *Strangle*: Pokey 8008,173 (lives). Pokey 8008,99 Pokey 8008.0 Pokey 8012,234 — no collision. *Spacewalk*: Pokey 50290,180 Pokey 51295,189 Pokey 51297.0; Pokey 51298,234 Pokey 51299,189 Pokey 51301.0 Pokey 51312,234 — indicate lives.

Jungle story

Jungle Story: Pokey 50290,180 indicate lives *Odyssey*: Pokey 50290,189 Pokey 50291.0; Pokey 50292,234 lives. *Chiller*: Load as normal and press Run/Stop Restore Pokey 22057,173 for indicate energy and Sys 22058.

Cyber Pokey 34598,173 indicate fuel. *Hungry Maxon*:

getting flower pot type 1 and press F7 to go to level 4. On level 10 after getting the patch-type Pokey 8 and 80 F7 to go to level 14.

Scandinavian Express: As above Load. Pokey 1818,78 Pokey 1811,248 Pokey 1812,282 and then Run. Pokey locations 30000 up to 30009 with 304. Pokey 28821,242 Sys 30394. Daley's Decision: On the javelin hold down fire and run as normal. Still holding fire. The javelin will go straight up and a spaceship will come down. Pokey When you get a high score type *American Express* while shuttlecock is switched on to get the cheer machine. *Scoury Bob* hold down L.E.V.I.M and you can then press the back arrow to change levels.

Tony Keadle

Tony Bridge's Adventure Corner



Mind your manners

There can be only about three adventures who have not heard of The Quill, and those are living half a mile from the source of the Amazon. I believe that this utility, the notable run-or-blank page of adventure-writing, is one of the most important programs for say home computer users to be released in the last few years.

In America, several other graphic adventure-writers have been released, although as far as I have seen, these are attractive but fairly useless for serious players.

The problems with early versions of The Quiz, and one which most reviewers have noted upon with glee, is the fact that most Quiz'd adventures tend to look the same - once you've seen the typical Quiz'd response [You have with you nothing at all and ONE Eye have a nice day], then there are no more surprises.

Since its release some two or three years ago Gilco® has produced a number of up-dates for the program, the first of which was Serial C. This is the version that new purchasers of the program will receive, but is also available as an up-date for just \$2.99 to anyone who still has the original tape. Version C goes some way toward allowing the author to customize the responses within the software.

Static Illustrations

The second advance was The Illustrator, as the graphics-creating part of the Quaff's suite of programs. This entry costs as much as the main program, but transforms the basic database. A sophisticated graphics editor allows the writer to create solid illustrations in perspective or Quaff locations or create life screens. Even so, there is still some inefficiency here; the picture can be quite slow to draw, and once complete, the player must then press a key in order to get on to the text part of the game (and quite often, isn't he or she his opponent).

Now the limitations of both *The Quest* and *The Illusionist* have been largely answered by the latest release from Glitch called *The Patch*. This allows the programmer to use a split screen, choosing the ratio of graphics to text (the picture will scroll up as you input text).

and also offers several ready-made sound effects as well as one or two character sets. Other facilities include save-to-buffer and editing of some of the system parameters.

As it is only the alternative typelanes that use up the memory, you can see that this is going to be a necessary adjunct to *The Chair*. It'll cost you \$5.00, and weeks, of course, with the main *Chair* and *Shower* programs.

With prices for the main programs running at \$17 each (\$10 for the Commodore and Amstrad disc versions), the whole suite is not cheap. But with them the imaginative author can produce a sophisticated adventure that will stand up to any others on the market.

There's an exciting new adventure-development program from the Ram Jam Corporation, but it is only available to software houses and those writers with a good idea, which allows for graphics, sound and motion characters.

For Amstrad owners, Incentive has just this week released The Graphic Adventure Creator which would appear at first to be an excellent utility. More of it soon.

So that's the package - how has it been used recently? That's the question that I shall be concentrating on in the next couple of weeks, and if I hear a groan, then all I can say is: 'Good on, because there are some smashing programs about!'

A couple of new adventures to be released by Glitch are *The Mole*, again from Tom Davies, an excellent writer, and *Madcap Manor* written by those mindbenders, Paul Sykes and Brian Johnston. An innovation here is the fact that both graphics and text screens are offered, one on each side of the cassette.

The two versions of *Mindrop: Missing Mirror* are similar in most respects, except for small detail changes—for example, the found objects are rather different, and some of the more complex problems are missing in the graphic version, due no doubt to the extra memory required to service the excellent graphics, drawn by Steve Green.

Falling asleep one day, you dream that you are miraculously transformed into Inspector Le Gif, the famous Belgian detective. Waking off, you find that, coming straight from your bed, you must find some clothes, and then you can explore the Manor. And Mrs Crumley the cook, valuing with her silver-trilled *Play Zeal*.

Lake on the Moon: Boyan's ground planet
 from Earth: the brother's rocks followed

Madcap Manor is the home of great looseness, and this is made even more by the characters wandering about, with whom you can build conversations and gain clues as to what is going on – the closest type of character interaction is a *Quill's* adventure. The logic, however, sometimes goes awry (I was able to start the engine of the car in the garage before finding the starting handle).

The Show, on the other hand, appears to be a completely different game on each side of the camera, so most about as good value. The player is required to find the remaining seven pieces of magical medallion while traveling in the crystal land of Moylan (you start with three pieces). Tom Devine, an adventure writer whose programs I have admired for years, has dreamed up a scenario which runs very long and atmospheric: descriptions throughout - I didn't find the adventure dull particularly atmospheric, but this may be because I haven't yet progressed very far, being held up by the necessity of finding a spell to get past a very strange bird.

The graphic version looks very colorful and very fast graphics, by Toru himself, and good points include the fact that you can ask for help and for once get quite a detailed clue to the particular problem worrying you at that location. Uniquely, the player is offered an easy way to progress, or a hint at the correct

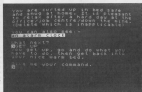


Figure 1: Schematic representation of the experimental design. The figure is divided into two main sections: 'Pretest' and 'Main Experiment'. The 'Pretest' section includes a 'Pretest' box with a 'Pretest' label and a 'Pretest' box with a 'Pretest' label. The 'Main Experiment' section includes a 'Main Experiment' box with a 'Main Experiment' label and a 'Main Experiment' box with a 'Main Experiment' label.

solution which may be rather harder to figure out. The program makes full use of the graphics, and the player can select a redescription in text only, or with the graphics; and pictures can be drawn only at the first visit to a location, or at every visit. There are some bad points – surely the program should say 'I don't understand when it actually says *Doing* that is of no use to you!' That's being chatty!

However, there are a couple of new good-value adventures from the home of *The Quill*, and they should give even experienced players a few weeks hard thinking.

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Spectrum

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1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

[illegible]

Top Twenty

1	(1)	Way of the Exploding Fist (Spectrum/C&A/Amstrad)	McBee/Bee House
2	(-)	Impassible Mission (Spectrum/C&A)	Epps/US Gold
3	(2)	Frankie Bruno's Boxing (Spectrum/C&A/Amstrad)	Elite
4	(10)	Madcat (Spectrum/C&A/Amstrad/Amstrad)	Activision
5	(10)	Pinball Wizards (Spectrum/C&A/Amstrad)	Mastertronic
6	(-)	Who Dares Wins II (C&A)	Allegata
7	(19)	Formula One Simulator (Spectrum/C&A/CMS)	Mastertronic
8	(4)	Gale Thompson's Superstix (Spectrum)	Ocean
9	(6)	Fighting Warrior (Spectrum/C&A)	McBee/Bee House
10	(9)	Shadow Of The Unicorn (Spectrum)	Mikro-Ges
11	(3)	Faithlight (Spectrum)	The Edge
12	(13)	Summer Games II (C&A)	Epps/US Gold
13	(18)	Action Mixer (Spectrum/C&A)	Mastertronic
14	(12)	BMX Racers (Spectrum/C&A/CMS)	Mastertronic
15	(4)	Graham Gould's Test Cricket (Spectrum/C&A)	Asilogic
16	(2)	Spy vs Spy II (C&A)	Beyond
17	(-)	World Series Basketball (Spectrum/C&A)	Imagine
18	(-)	Beach-Head (Spectrum/C&A/Amstrad/S&S/Amstrad/Electra)	Access/US Gold
19	(11)	Boiled On The Kings (Spectrum/C&A/S&S)	Microsoft
20	(5)	Now Games (Spectrum/C&A)	Vision

Figures are arranged alphabetically from A through Z. Under each name is a page number.

Readers' Chart No 48

1	(1)	Way of the Exploding Flat (Spectrum/CMS/Amstrad/Melbourne House)	
2	(2)	Fullnight (Spectrum)	The Edge
3	(3)	Way Games (Spectrum/CMS)	Virgin
4	(4)	Way Thompson's Expertest (Spectrum)	Gold
5	(5)	Summer Games II (CMS)	Apps/MS Dyna
6	(6)	Hyperspace (Spectrum/CMS)	Images
7	(7)	Bad Moon (Spectrum/CMS/MSX/Amstrad)	Level II
8	(8)	Soft Aid (Spectrum/CMS)	Various Artists
9	(9)	Frankie Brown's Boogie (Spectrum/CMS/Amstrad)	State
10	(10)	Excuse Me (CMS)	Production/MSX

Wearing glasses like Al: "I like my shopping days all know, dear", says D. Bennett of Fulmer, Bucks, who carries 60. She also mentions to J. Horner of Canterbury, Surrey with "My's just expensive today. Rag at auction" and Peter Inverness of Isle, Cheshire with "I've got a new dress today with a bow".

Now voting on week 50 – £25 to win

Each week, Popular is compiling its own special software top-ten chart — compiled by WCH.

And each week we will send 125 to the person who sends in, with their short story, the most original/witty, smart or clever – but never rude/phrased as sentence made up from the letters (you don't have to use them!) in the titles of the top three programs in this week's Readers' Chart, published above.

You can still vote in the chart without making up a slogan – but you won't be in with a chance of winning the prize.

All you have to do is fill in the form below (or copy it out if you don't want to damage your magazine) and send it off to: Top 10, *Popular Computing Weekly*, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2N 6NL.

Voting for Week 58 closes at 3pm on Wednesday, November 6, 1996. Entries received after that time will not be eligible for inclusion in that week's voting. The judges' decision is final. Only one entry per individual can count with be allowed.

Name My top 3: Voting Week 10
Address
.....
.....
.....

New Releases

MYTHIC BEAST

Shadow of the Unicorn, not a mythical program at all, has turned up. This is the first program to use MicroGen's new Micro Plus interface which gives you a tape test utility, a joystick port and an extra I/O. This ought to give



you bigger games with more, and more detailed graphics.

Little wonder then that *Shadow of the Unicorn* is a large adventure with lots of graphics. It seems to be a hybrid of domains of other genres: the characters have a similar style to *Wally* games; you control music players like *McMug*; many of the backgrounds look like *Valkyrie* and you can look in various directions it is *Fit as a Nag*. You get a book telling the story of beddies and goodies which reads like the usual fodder of pseudo-myth and mystic ruses.

First impressions of the game were pretty disappointing, the graphics are nowhere near *Gargoyles* stan-

dard, and the backgrounds are pretty basic looking in places. The animation is also nothing beyond what you might see in the average budget game. Though the adventure is clearly big it isn't far enough any bigger than *Midnight* - a lot smaller, in fact.

If that extra memory is being used anywhere it must be in the logic and gameplay. I found some evidence for this in the small amount of time I could spend on the game. There are lots of interesting locations and odd characters (most of whom I have slaughtered so far) as I think it may, in the end, prove to be a fairly comprehensive complex game. An immediate *Goth War* it isn't, though.

Program *Shadow of the Unicorn*
Price £14.95
Micro Spectrum
Supplier MicroGen Unit 17 Western Centre, Bracknell

EASY PLAY

Camel Software has recently tested a music program for the Amstrad called *Toolbox 2*. It differs from other music programs in its intention - not to teach you much about music but simply to get you in the position of playing music quickly and easily.

It gives you the chance to play your Amstrad in a similar way to those Cuisin 'one key' facilities where after recording the sequence of notes you require, you then time them by pressing a sin-



gle key in step with a rhythm aid. Each press of the key releases a note of the tune. This facility is available on all three sound channels of the



'releases' a note of the tune. This facility is available on all three sound channels of the

DISC DRIVEN

Programmer Ian Rich has done a great job, considering the limitations of the Spectrum. The 3-D perspective is good, and although the graphic display doesn't look impressive, what's important is that the game plays very well indeed. There are three skill levels... don't start on number three - it's hard.

At £6.95 perhaps it's not quite as competitively priced as it might have been, but if you are looking for an original and challenging arcade game, this could be it.

Program *Dance of Death*
Price £6.95
Micro Spectrum
Supplier After Computing Main Street, Bracknell, Berkshire

Amstrad and so a three part tune is possible.

There are other features like transposition and a preset rhythm and altering the sound timbre has been kept in the business of fiddling with the envelope shape.

It's quite a well designed package and for those with no knowledge of music is a relatively cheap buy.

Program *Toolbox 2*
Price £9.95
Micro Amstrad
Supplier Camel Micros, Wedport, Wiltshire Ave, Exeter

Program	Type	Micro	Price	Supplier
<i>The Worm in Paradise</i>	Ad	Amstrad	£9.95	Level 9
<i>Physics Revision Formulae</i>	Ed	Amstrad	£14.95	Amsoft
<i>Chemistry Revision</i>	Ed	Amstrad	£14.95	Amsoft
<i>Web War</i>	Ad	BBC	£9.95	Microsoft
<i>The Worm in Paradise</i>	Ad	Commodore	£9.95	Level 9
<i>Mission Asteroid</i>	Ad	Commodore	£14.95	US Gold
<i>Shootdown 84</i>	Ad	Commodore	£9.95	Microsphere

Software	Arc	Commodore	Price	Supplier
<i>Underbings</i>	Ad	Dragon 32	£9.95	Maridon
<i>Grath</i>	Ad	Dragon 32	£9.95	Maridon
<i>Mazepace</i>	Ed	Dragon 32	£9.95	Maridon
<i>Spelthorn</i>	Ed	Dragon 32	£9.95	Maridon
<i>Monster's Quest</i>	Ad	Enterprise	£7.95	Enterprise
<i>Star Strike 85</i>	Ad	Enterprise	£7.95	Enterprise
<i>Jet Set Willy II</i>	Ad	MIX	£7.95	Software Project
<i>M&A Paddler Accounts</i>	Ad	MIX	£11.95	Activision
<i>Fugroll</i>	Ad	PC/AT/XT	£99.95	Sageant
	Ad	PC/AT/XT	£99.95	Sageant



ON THE ROAD

I'm not going to spend too much time talking about 3D Grand Prix - one of the new Amstrad Gold range for the Amstrad machines. We're all used to what the Amstrads can do when programmed well - see Ultima/Cargyle and many others - it's such a pity that there is such a lot of overlooked stuff for them - some of it produced by Amstrad itself.

Amstrad clearly regards 3D Grand Prix as 'something a bit special', so when it arrived on my desk, it was up and running faster than you can say 'you cannot be serious'. Now I'm a 1.875 Beyerman myself... quite a collection really, as it took exactly that long to realise exactly how playable 3DGP was.

I persevered - it got worse. None of the excitement of Pole Position - there is no impression of speed and challenge. None of the realism of Fiero - the car manoeuvres like a tank and the oppo-

sition are more like moving brick walls. There is some pretty background scrolling - but what's the use of the thing if there isn't a race to put it on in the first place? I think everyone concerned would do well to forget about this one.

Program 3D Grand Prix
Price £24.95
Micro Amstrad CPC's
Supplier Amstrad
Brentwood House
109 Kings Road
Brentwood
Essex
CM34 4EP

MAKE MUSIC

When the MSX machines started appearing here the only one I managed to raise any enthusiasm for was the Yamaha CX5 MSX Synthesiser. This wonderful machine lets you create music in up to eight parts using the same sort of sound techniques outlined in the famous in the famous DX7 - which just about everybody from James Last to Philip Glass has at least two of.

It seems though that even the CX5 hasn't been doing too well and if you look around you'll find some excellent discounts in the specialist music shops. Having had one for a while I can only suggest that if you like making music you go out and buy one immediately.

The justification for all this blarney is the fact that Fiero music have released a music writing package for the CX5 which would seem at first glance merely to duplicate what's available on Yamaha's

own Composer cartridge.

In fact the FM Musicwriter is a rather different entity, which turns the CX5 into a flexible Chord rather than a tool for serious composing. This has some good as well as bad aspects but certainly the package does not use the machine to the full.

And points first, you are stuck with 3/4 or 4/4 as a rhythmic choice (where would this leave Stravinsky?). You cannot use sounds you have created yourself and are stuck with the sometimes dodgy presets, and you have to use fixed chords - your own notated music has to be monophonic.

On a machine capable of



almost infinite musical variety using eight notes, it seems absurd that it should be so restricted. Moreover, the package does have one obvious advantage - it is a lot easier to use than the Composer program precisely because you don't have to insert each chord or write in the percussion parts.

The program is divided into four sections, editing of the score where you insert the actual notes, bar divisions, key signatures, etc. Page Two concerns rhythm and repeats. Rhythm is the usual mixture of Cato/Glass organ sounds - Disco, Waltz, etc, a marginal improvement over the CX5's existing presets. There are several pages for chords and several music parameters like key signature and tempo.

Instructions like 'Play A7 as D7chord on Waltz rhythm are inserted onto the score at the appropriate place. Although it is easy to use and the manual is also clear, the end result tend to have a sort of home organ feel about them, probably because of those rhythms, so if it's Philip Glass Polyphonic density you're after forget it. If you feel in need of a very basic, very helpful package that will do a lot of musical work for you, albeit with slightly limited results, this is worth looking at.

Program FM Musicwriter
Price £29.95
Micro CX5
Supplier Fiero Music
34 Brookgrove
Oxford
OX2 0JW
Essex

Compiled by Graham Taylor

New Releases is designed to let people know what software is coming on the market. If you have a new game or utility which you are about to release send a copy and accompanying details to New Releases, Popular Computing Weekly, 15-15 Little Newport Street, London WC2N 2LD.

Activision, 15 Hatfield House, Marylebone Road, London NW1, 01-262 7585. **Amstrad**, Brentwood House, 109 Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex, 0277 330223. **Artisoft**, Felton, Ayles, Main Street, Bransford, Cheshire, YO25 5PL, 0457 42652. **Digital Integration**, Winchester Trade Centre, Winchester Road, Canterbury, Surrey, GU15 3AJ, 0275 584958. **Entreprise**, 31-37 Haxton Street, London, N1 6AL, 01-735 4282. **Infinitas**, 73 Alexander Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 1LW, 021 5584988. **High Wycombe**, Bucks HP13 5PD, 0494 26871. **Musical**, Blithemore Cottage, Harpenden Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Great Musson, Bucks HP18 0QD. **Northwood**, Park Lane, 171 Park Road, London NW6 7JL, 01-402

3318. **Microsphere**, 73 Rosebury Road, London NW6 2LA, 01-863 9471. **Mikro-Ges**, Unit 15, The Western Centre, Western Road, Bracknell, Berks, RG13 1RW, 0494 427313. **Minorsoft**, Headington Hill Hall, Oxford OX3 0BW. **Supersoft**, Hill House, Regent Centre, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 3DS, 091 284 7077. **Sindlar**, Staines Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 5PS, 0275-488180. **Software Project**, Beartland and Complex, Allerton Road, Wootton, Liverpool L26 7SP, 051 428 8263. **US Gold**, US Gold, Unit 10, The Parkway Ind. Centre, Henage Street, Birmingham B7 4LY. **Virgin Games**, 3-4 Verian Yard, Pinner Road, London W11 2DX.



Intelligent woman

George Bernard Shaw found a mass market for his plays and philosophy, and he supported that part of his success was due to pushing his arguments so that they would be understood by an imagined "typical" reader.

That reader he described as "an intelligent woman", and he even wrote a pamphlet entitled *The Intelligent Woman's Guide to Socialism* which, despite the title, was intended to be read by everybody.

Perhaps the home computer industry could benefit by copying Shaw and appealing to the "intelligent woman": it may be the only way to avoid the depressing fate of becoming just another specialist male interest with an over-swindling band of loyal devotees.

There is absolutely no evidence to indicate that the microcomputer industry as a whole gives a woman's thought to its almost exclusively masculine appeal, but should it do so it would see the inevitability of the current "boy's toy" image. Homocidal ideas, lighter aircraft simulations and weekend armies all appeal directly and unapologetically to the youthful male imagination. It is a strange fate for the mathematically pure and serious computing engine that is the microchip.

When the copyrighting larks first undertook to swindle consumers to the wonders of microtechnology all sorts of promises were made on behalf of computers. What was not taken fully into account was that a typical system of

computer, tape recorder and television was good for almost nothing except playing arcade games.

The last 18 months have seen the inconvertible ascent of the computer game. Clever machine code, links with personalities from the entertainment world and multi-thousand pound marketing have attracted a public who think they are "computing" when in fact they are only playing games. Home computers are the most exciting development in entertainment since the invention of television, but playing games should not be seen as something special just because it involves a computer, and home computers should not be seen as purely games machines for teenage boys.

In response to mild protest from alienated women, some software houses issued programs specifically aimed at the "female" market, but computerized cooking and sitcom chip learning packages have rightly been exposed as patronizing as well as a waste of time.

However, just while home computing appeared to be resigning itself to becoming an essentially masculine hobby, a radical change in direction took place.

The market has stopped expanding outwards and has now started to move upwards: home computers have become useful. The latest machines - like the Amstrad 6266 - have large memories, fast storage, reliable hardware and free business software.

Price cuts have now put computers/diagramming/games packages within the reach of most pockets.

The result is a substantial increase in computer ownership from people who would not consider themselves to be computer literate, but who nevertheless have a use for wordprocessors, spreadsheets and databases and who may even be tempted eventually into buying a chess game or a good adventure.

The functional computer system, then, is the trend which is developing from the status of the last year and a half.

Computers are at last beginning to appeal to the intelligent woman.

Mike Lloyd

Dacey business

Puzzle No 181

In the "guess" game below, a two-digit number is multiplied by a single-digit number. To the resulting two-digit product is added another two-digit number which gives a final result, also of two digits.

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{**} \times (\text{guess}) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

+

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{**} + (\text{plus}) \\ \hline \end{array}$$

+

+

+

+

If the stars are explained by the correct digits it will be found that each of the nine digits 1 to 9 has been used once and once only.

Can you fill in the correct values?

Solution to Puzzle No 178

For any given starting point, counting round the circle of cards as described, a specific score would be achieved. The program below tests each of the possible 144 starting positions and prints out each respective score. If these results are examined it will be seen that the only score that is duplicated by consecutive start points is a score of six. (The start points are: 10 and 18, 32 and 39, 11 and 112, and 128 and 135.)

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10 135 112 11 32 134
11 134 112 10 32 135
12 135 112 11 32 134
13 134 112 10 32 135
14 135 112 11 32 134
15 134 112 10 32 135
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138 135 112 11 32 134
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140 135 112 11 32 134
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142 135 112 11 32 134
143 134 112 10 32 135
144 135 112 11 32 134
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This does not determine my age exactly, but this was not asked for!

Winner of Puzzle 178

The winner is Don Macdonald of Glasgow, from above, who receives £10.

Notes

The closing date for Puzzle 181 is November 27.

The Hackers

Copying another student's work then exam is a very serious offence.



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